

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	Magistrate Case No. 08MJ8301
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	FINDINGS OF FACT AND
)	ORDER OF DETENTION
Heriberto REYES,)	
)	
Defendant.)	

In accordance with § 3142(f) of the Bail Reform Act of 1984 (18 U.S.C. § 3141 et seq.), a detention hearing was held on April 10, 2008, to determine whether defendant Heriberto REYES should be held in custody pending trial on the grounds that he is a flight risk. Assistant U. S. Attorney John F. Weis appeared on behalf of the United States. Matthew Hagen of Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. appeared on behalf of the Defendant.

Based on the evidence proffered by the United States and the Defendant, the Pretrial Services Report, and the criminal complaint issued against the Defendant on April 7, 2008, by this Court, the Court concludes that the following facts establish by a preponderance of the evidence that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the Defendant required.

///

///

///

///

I

FINDINGS OF FACT

A. Nature and Circumstances of the Offense Charged (18 U.S.C. §3142(G)(1))

1. The Defendant is charged in Criminal Complaint No. 08MJ8301 with the importation of 32.90 kilograms (72.38 pounds) of cocaine in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 952 and 960. Therefore, probable cause exists to believe the Defendant committed the charged offense.

2. The charged offense is an offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 801 et seq.). Thus, there arises a presumption that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the Defendant as required. See 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e).

3. The offense carries with it a minimum mandatory 10 year sentence and a maximum life sentence. See 21 U.S.C. § 960(b)(1)(B). According to the United States Sentencing Guidelines, the Base Offense level is 34. See USSG § 2D1.1(3). Assuming the Defendant's criminal history score places him in Criminal History Category I, See USSG § 4A1.1, the sentencing range for the Defendant is 151-188 months in prison.

B. Weight of the Evidence Against the Defendant (18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)(2)):

1. On April 10, 2008, Defendant was the driver and registered owner of a 2003 Toyota Camry, as he entered the United States from Mexico, at the Calexico, California, East Port of Entry. Defendant was accompanied by his wife and two children. A subsequent inspection of the vehicle revealed a total of 14 packages, with a total weight of 32.90 kilograms (72.38 pounds) of cocaine. Defendant admitted knowledge of smuggling narcotics and stated he was to be paid \$3,000.00 to drive the vehicle to Los Angeles.

1. History and Characteristics of the Defendant (18 U.S.C. § 3142(G)(3)):

1. The Defendant is a United States citizen.
2. The Defendant resides in Thousand Palms, California.
3. The Defendant's spouse and three children reside in Brawley, California.
4. The Defendant's parents reside in Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico.

///

D. Nature and Seriousness of Danger Posed by Release (18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)(4)):

1. The government proffered no evidence to suggest that release of the Defendant would pose a danger to any person or the community. The Defendant has the following criminal history:

11/07/97 - Illegal Trafficker - Disposition Unknown

01/01/08 - 273.5 PC Inflict Corporal Injury on spouse/cohabitant -20 days jail,
36 months probation

II

REASONS FOR DETENTION

A. There is probable cause to believe that the Defendant committed the offense charged in the Criminal Complaint Number 08MJ8301, to wit: the importation of 32.90 kilograms (72.38 pounds) of cocaine in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 952 and 960.

B. The Defendant faces a substantial period of time in custody if convicted of the offense charged in the Complaint. He therefore has a strong motive to flee.

C. The Defendant has not rebutted the presumption, based upon the Court's findings that there is probable cause to believe that the Defendant committed an offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 801 et seq.), that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the Defendant at future court proceedings.

III

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Defendant be detained pending trial in this matter.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Defendant be committed to the custody of the Attorney General or his designated representative for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal. The Defendant shall be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel.

///

///

///

1 While in custody, upon order of a court of the United States or upon the request of an attorney
2 for the United States, the person in charge of the correctional facility shall deliver the Defendant to the
3 United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding or any
4 other appearance stipulated to by defense and government counsel.

5 THIS ORDER IS ENTERED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

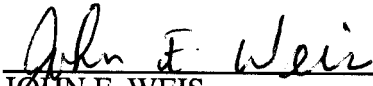
6 IT IS SO ORDERED.

7 DATED: 4-17-08

8
9 
10 PETER C. LEWIS
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

11 Prepared by:

12 KAREN P. HEWITT
13 United States Attorney

14
15 
16 JOHN F. WEIS
Assistant U. S. Attorney

17 cc: Matthew Hagen
18 Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc.
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28